

UPC-4

Log # 10-03 (for office use only)

**WASHINGTON STATE BUILDING CODE COUNCIL
APPLICATION FOR REVIEW OF A PROPOSED STATEWIDE AMENDMENT
TO THE WASHINGTON STATE BUILDING CODE**

1. State Building Code to be Amended.

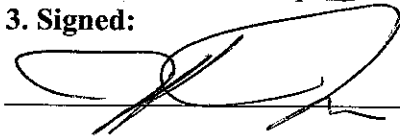
- ☐ International Building Code ☐ Ventilation and Indoor Air Quality Code
☐ International Residential Code ☐ International Mechanical Code
☐ ICC ANSI A117.1 Accessibility Code ☐ International Fuel Gas Code
☐ International Fire Code ☐ NFPA 54 National Fuel Gas Code
☒ Uniform Plumbing Code ☐ NFPA 58 Liquefied Petroleum Gas Code
☐ State Energy Code

Section UPC 608.7 **Page** 104

2. Applicant:

Fast Water Heater Company

3. Signed:



President 5/21/2009

Proponent Title Date

4. Contact Person:

Jeff Jordan

Name Title

Address: 12601 132 Ave NE

Kirkland, WA 98034

Phone: (425) 636-7058 **Fax:** (425) 636-7058

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MAY 27 2009
SBCC

7. Proposed Code Amendment (Underline all added words, strike through deleted words)
Additional pages may be attached.

Code UPC Section 608.7 Page 104

Amend section to read as follows:

~~Where a hot water storage tank or an indirect water heater is located at an elevation above the fixture outlets in the hot water system, a vacuum relief valve shall be installed on the storage tank or heater.~~

8. Background information on amendment.

NOTE: State-wide and emergency state-wide amendments to the state building code should be based on one of the following criteria:

- (1) The amendment is needed to address a critical life/safety need.
- (2) The amendment is needed to address a specific state policy or statute.
- (3) The amendment is needed for consistency with state or federal regulations.
- (4) The amendment is needed to address a unique character of the state.
- (5) The amendment corrects errors and omissions.**

I am proposing that section 608.7 be removed in its entirety. We work in just over 100 municipalities in Washington State and when ever we have installed a vacuum breaker as designated in the code, 75% of the inspectors inform the customer it is not necessary. The few that do enforce it, only require it on electric water heaters as a means to eliminate siphoning that could cause a dry fire to occur to the upper element. Those that do not enforce it, understand that all water heaters have an anti siphon hole in the top of the dip tube that keeps siphoning from happening.

I would propose that this section be removed if the purpose is to eliminate siphoning as this is built into the water heater. If there is some other purpose, such as not reducing the flash point of water via a negative pressure, then it should remain with the addition of specifying if this applies to gas, electric or both.

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Economic Impact Worksheet

(Required for statewide amendment requests. Attach supporting documentation.)

Code References: UPC Title: Vacuum Relief Valves
Proponent: Jeff Jordan Phone: 425-636-7558 Date: 5-27-09

Part I ♦ Amendment Benefit:

PROBLEM(S) ADDRESSED: Code section need clarification so it is enforced, or it should be removed

PRIMARY REASON FOR AMENDMENT: (check one only)

- ☐ Protect public health, safety and welfare ☐ Mandate from legislation or courts
☒ Reduce cost ☐ Code change
☐ "Manage risk" for government ☒ Other make enforcement consistent

TYPE OF BENEFITS PROJECTED: (check all that apply)

- ☐ Saves lives/reduces injuries ☐ Saves energy
☐ Protects/improves long-term health ☐ Protects environment
Reduces construction cost: ☐ Increases accessibility
☒ Over existing code requirement ☐ Reduces regulation
☐ Canceling new code requirement ☐ Reduces government enforcement cost
☐ Off-setting new code requirement ☒ Clarifies/improves existing code
☐ Increases construction alternatives ☐ Protects property loss/damage
☐ Other _____

Part II ♦ Amendment Impacts:

TYPES OF CONSTRUCTION: ☐ New Construction ☐ Remodeling/Tenant Improvement/Repair

COMPLETE TABLE FOR EACH BUILDING TYPE CHECKED (See reverse for instruction on items ^a through ^e)

√	Building Type	Construction ^a 1st Cost		Enforcement ^b		Owner ^c Ongoing		Other		Supporting data attached
	Residential	C/S ^d	Degree ^e	C/S ^d	Degree ^e	C/S ^d	Degree ^e	C/S ^d	Degree ^e	✓
✓	Single family	-75	1	-100	1	0	0			
✓	Multi-family	-75	1	-100	1	0	0			
	Commercial/Retail									
	Industrial									
	Government/Utilities									
	Other:									

OTHER EFFECTS:

Evaluate by number scale 0-3 (0=none, 3=significant)

- 0 Likelihood for litigation
0 Decrease public cooperation
0 Disadvantage small business
Other _____

Evaluate by letter code

(Spec, Custom, Factory, Remodel, Manufact., Other, NA)

- NA Advantage one industry
NA Disadvantage one industry

Part III ♦ Comments and Recommendations:

Evaluate each by number scale 0-3 (0=none, 3=significant)

- 3 Difficulty to Enforce 1 Cost of not adopting amendment
0 Costs exceed Benefits 0 Degree of TAG controversy
2 C/S Confidence level

Evaluate Yes or No (circle one)

- Y / N Were alternative solutions considered
N / N Recommend further benefit/impact analysis
N / N Recommend future benefit/impact review